

The Encapsulation Program

Oregon's waterways are an important resource that should be protected and enhanced for enjoyment by present and future generations.

To prevent polystyrene foam from littering Oregon waters, Oregon enacted a law requiring the encapsulation or covering of the foam. This procedure will enhance water quality and protect wildlife.

Oregon's foam encapsulation program encourages citizen's to become involved in water enhancement by taking an active role in covering any foam material that might be used in the water.



Polystyrene foam encapsulated in plywood.

- Encapsulation will protect the environment from polystyrene foam flotation that has broken away from floating structures.
- Under normal marine conditions, covered foam will last longer and require less maintenance time and cost. This means that once the initial investment is made, the facility owner is rewarded with reduced maintenance and a longer life expectancy of the floating structure.

Oregon's Foam Law

In order to be in compliance with the foam encapsulation law, individuals using polystyrene foam flotation must complete and return a simple Certification Form to the Marine Board.

The form is to be completed for all new construction projects, and for certain maintenance, repair, alteration and additions to existing floating structures. **There is no fee for this procedure.**

Any individual, firm or agency involved in any of the above-mentioned activities must obtain approval from the Marine Board **before** placement of any floating structure with polystyrene foam flotation in Oregon waters.

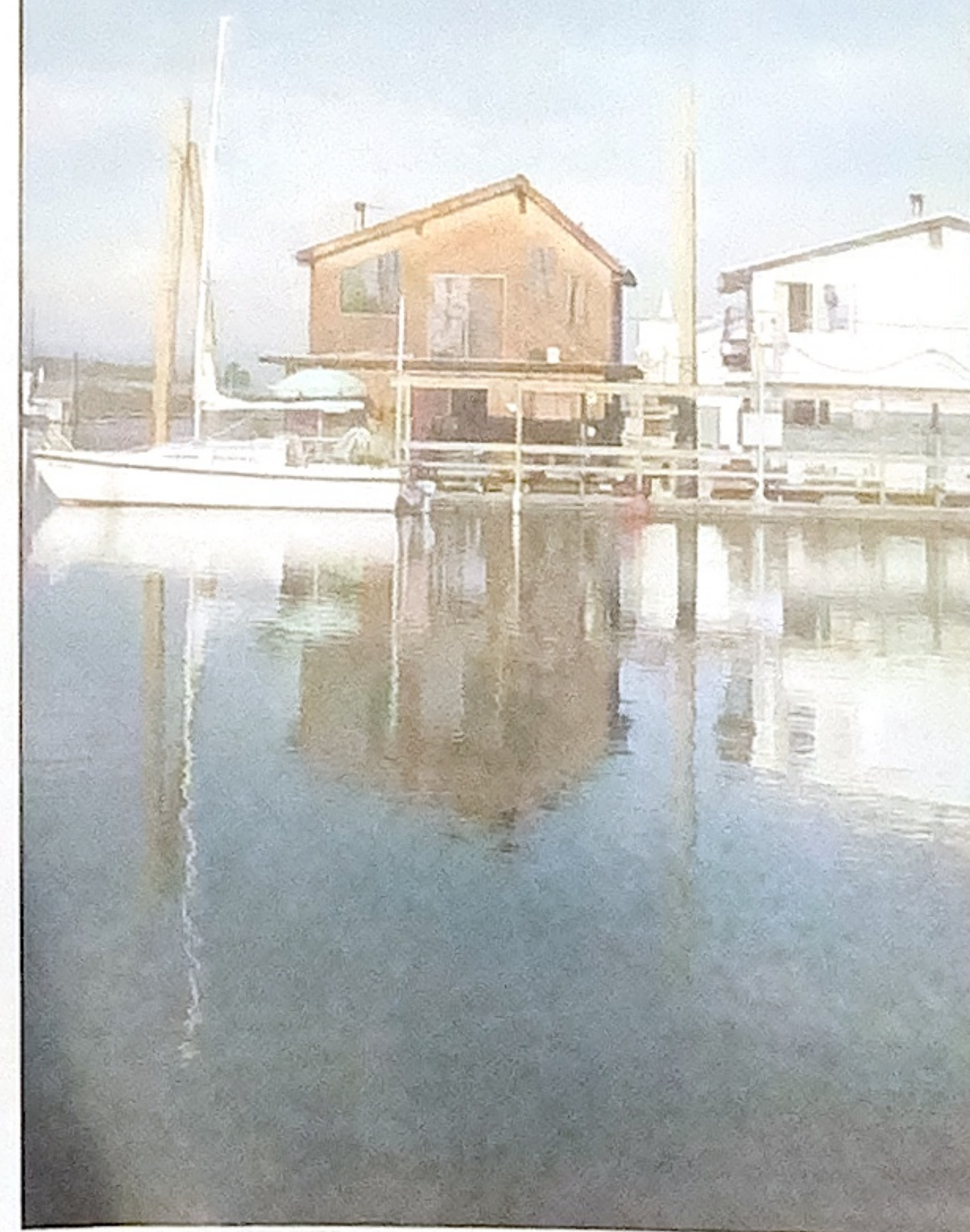
Federal, state and local government agencies are subject to these rules.



To obtain a Certification Form or for further information, contact:

Oregon State Marine Board
Foam Encapsulation Program
435 Commercial St. NE
Salem, OR 97310 (503) 373-1405, ext. 234

OREGON'S POLYSTYRENE FOAM ENCAPSULATION PROGRAM



POLYSTYRENE FOAM: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

Polystyrene

Polystyrene foam is a Styrofoam®-like material used for flotation under docks, boathouses and floating homes. It is also commonly used on buoys and flotation for fish nets.

This foam is made from small white grains expanded into round beads with steam. These beads are then molded into square or round billets and buoys.

Because holes and gaps are left between the beads during the manufacturing process, polystyrene is slowly broken down into smaller and smaller pieces. Eventually it is broken down into tiny beads.

These beads lead to the phenomena known as the "foam bathtub ring" that lines beaches and shorelines in Oregon.

In 1992, the Oregon legislature passed a law designed to prevent polystyrene foam from littering Oregon waters.



Foam pieces and foam beads have become common sights in Oregon waters.

Problems

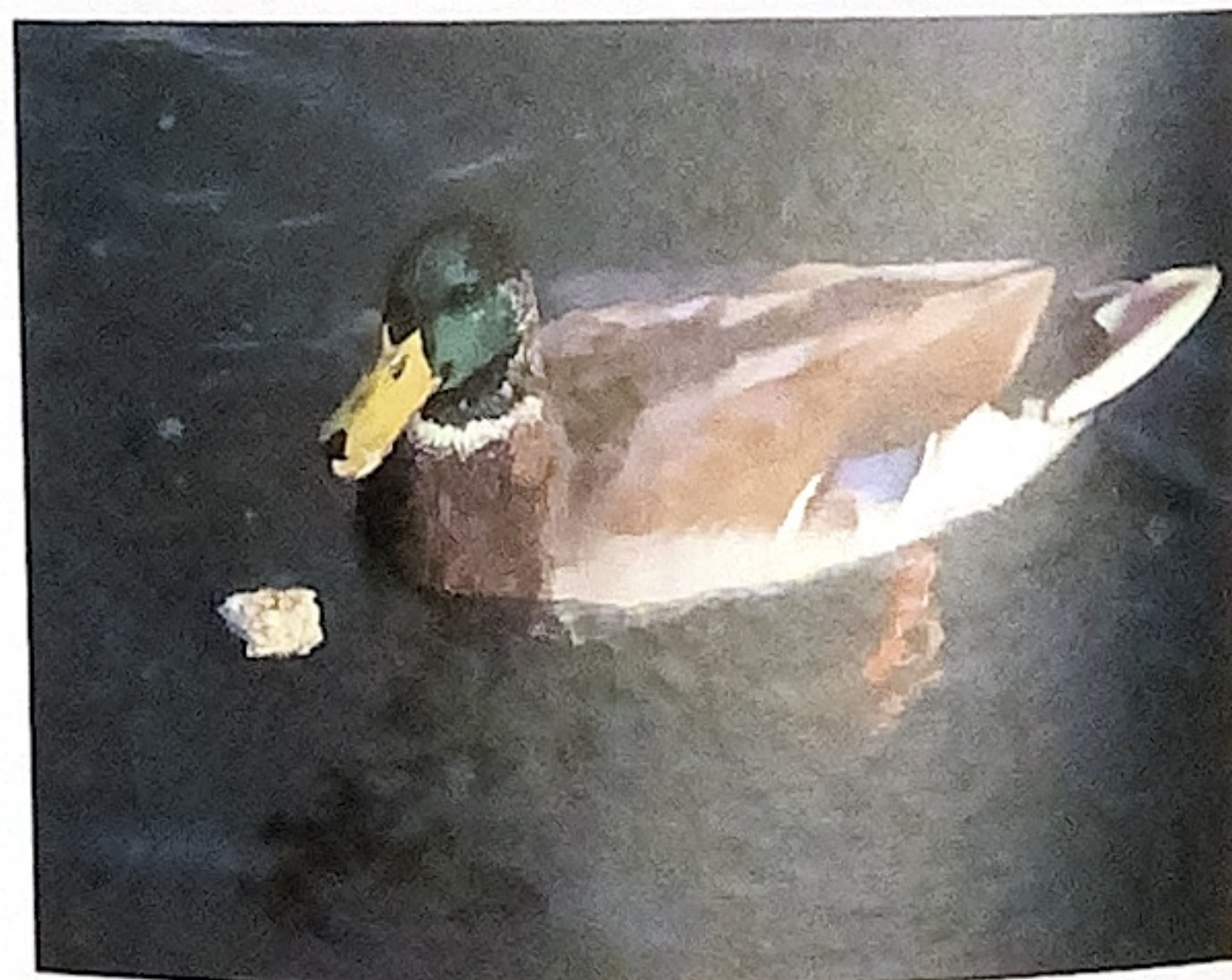
Small polystyrene foam beads are detrimental to water quality, wildlife resources and the appearance of Oregon's waterways.

Muskrats, birds, and marine life such as snails, worms and mollusks burrow into polystyrene used in the water as flotation. Wake action and grounding out of floats can cause the material to break free and float downstream.

Polystyrene foam particles do not decay naturally for reuse by the environment. Large amounts of broken foam pieces are caught in the tide and drift ashore.

Ducks and fish may mistake the foam for food and ingest it. This could result in the animal feeling full, not eating the proper food and possibly dying.

Enough polystyrene has been collected to put it on Oregon's "Dirty Dozen" list.



Ducks and other marine animals may ingest the foam, mistaking it for food.

Solutions

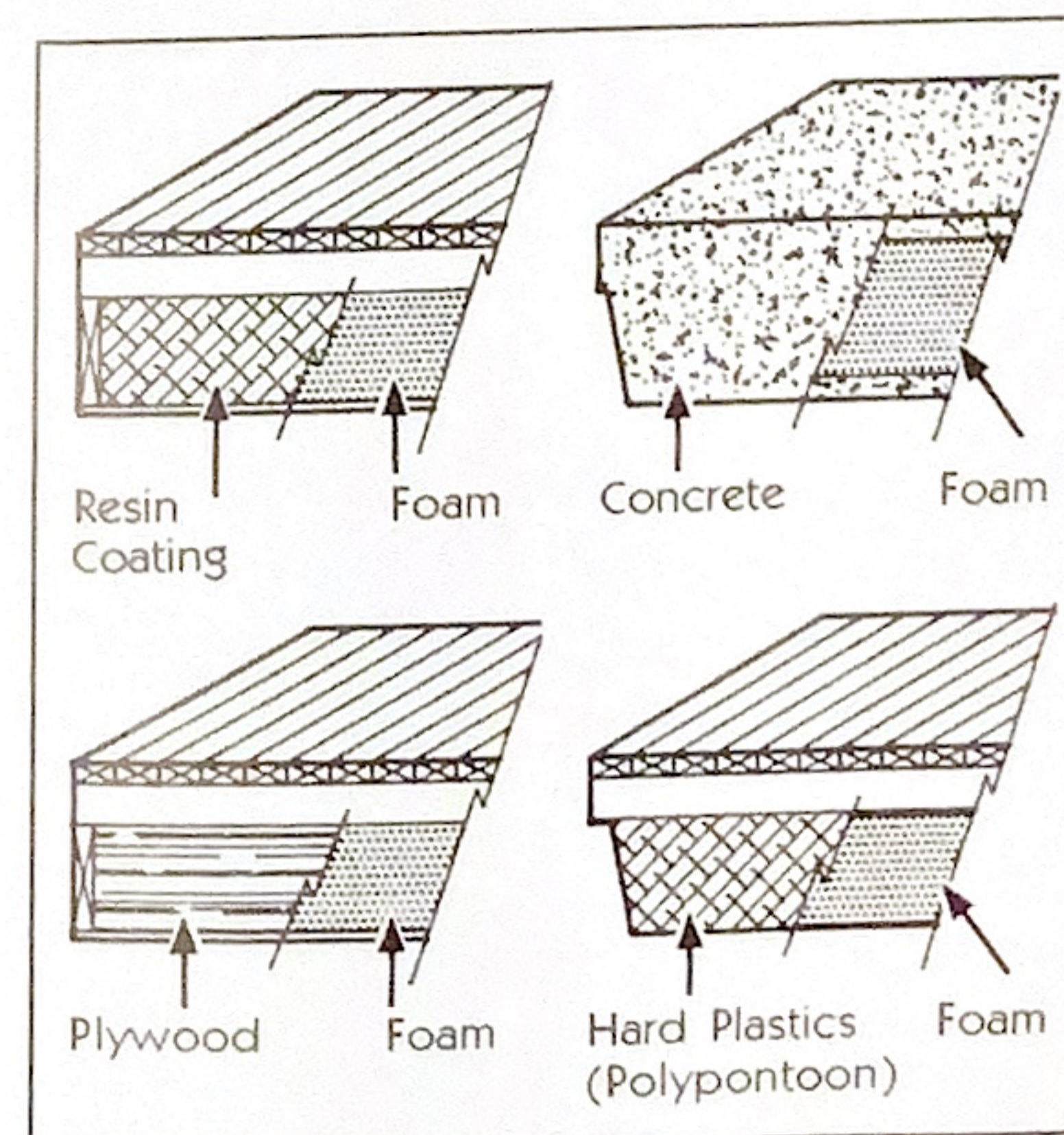
Studies have shown that encapsulation of polystyrene foam used as flotation will significantly reduce the amount of loose foam pieces in Oregon waters.

Coverings:

- Resin coating
- Concrete
- Plywood
- Hard plastics
- Fiberglass
- Plastic sheets seven mils or thicker
- Galvanized steel

Coverings to avoid:

- Steel drums
- Household paints
- Garbage bags wrapped several times



Typical encapsulation devices.

December 1, 1992

MEMO

STATE

MARINE

BOARD

TO: Planning Departments

FROM: Oregon State Marine Board

RE: Floatation Encapsulation Rules
OAR Chapter 250 Division 14 Section 110-190

ATTACHMENTS: Section 1-Polystyrene Foam Floatation Rules,
Policy-Procedures
Section 2-Certification Application Form
Foam Informational Brochures

The Polystyrene Foam Floatation Rules were adopted in March of 1992 and require the encapsulation or "covering" of exposed polystyrene foam used in waterways to prevent it from escaping into the environment. The polystyrene foam is a styrofoam -like material that is made into small round beads, then molded into square or round billets and buoys.

The rules apply to all new construction projects and certain maintenance, repair, alteration and additions to existing floating structures. In order for citizens to be in compliance with the rules, they must complete and return the Certification Form to the Marine Board.

Please distribute the prepared packets giving information about the Polystyrene Foam Rules, Certification Forms and informational brochures to those individuals who are planning to do projects involving floating structures.

If you have any questions about this program or the information enclosed, please contact Valerie F. Hoy (503) 373-1405 Ext. 234.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping to disseminate information to the public about this program.



435 Commercial St. NE
Salem, OR 97310-0650
(503) 378-8587
FAX (503) 378-4597



SECTION 2

Dear Applicant:

An Encapsulation Certification Form is required for all new construction projects or additions to existing structures involving polystyrene foam floatation, and certain other maintenance, alteration and repair projects as specified in the rules. These rules apply to all public and private floating structures placed on the waters of this state.

FORM COMPLETION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Determine if your project requires a Certification Form (read Floatation Encapsulation Rules OAR 250-14-110-190).
2. Complete the attached Floatation Encapsulation Certification Form and return it to the Environmental Coordinator, State Marine Board, 435 Commercial Street NE, Salem, OR 97310.
 - a. In Section 1, the Certification form may be completed by the owner, an authorized agent or contractor.
 - b. In Section 2, enter the location of property where the project is to take place. Information on the legal description may be obtained from your local planning office.
 - c. In Section 3, you may check more than one box for the Project Type. If more than one box applies, specify the number of floating structures for each proposed project. (You may list the type, number, dimensions of proposed floating structures on a separate sheet of paper).
 - d. In Section 4, you may check more than one box for Materials and Methods used to encapsulate. Give the thickness of the encapsulate material, product name and estimate the amount of foam to be used for each proposed project in cubic feet and/or number of billets.
 - e. In Section 5, the certification form may be signed by either the applicant and/or the authorized agent/contractor.
3. There are no fees associated with the certification form. Please allow 10 working days for review and approval.

Remember, an approved Certification Form does not relieve the applicant from obtaining other federal, state, or local permits, licenses or approvals which may be required.

If you need information or assistance regarding the Encapsulation Program, please contact Valerie Hoy, Environmental Coordinator at (503) 373-1405 Ext. 234.

State Marine Board
435 Commercial St. NE
Salem, OR 97310
(503) 378-8587

FLOATATION ENCAPSULATION CERTIFICATION FORM



Agency Use Only

Oregon State Marine Board Number _____ Oregon Division of State Lands Number _____
Date Received _____ Date Approved _____

① Applicant Name and Address _____ Business phone # _____
Home phone # _____

☐ Authorized Agent Business phone # _____
☐ Contractor Home phone # _____
(Name and Address) _____

② PROJECT LOCATION

Street, Road or other descriptive location _____

Legal Description _____

Tax Map # _____

Tax Lot # _____

County _____

Waterway _____

River Mile _____

Is consent to enter property granted to the Marine Board? ☐ Yes ☐ No

③ PROPOSED PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Type: ☐ Floating Home ☐ Boathouse ☐ Float/Walkway ☐ Moorage Slip
☐ Fuel Float ☐ Other _____

Dimensions of Floating Structure: _____ length; _____ width; _____ depth

Activity Type: ☐ New ☐ Addition ☐ Repair/Alteration

Estimated Date of Placement in water _____

④ MATERIALS AND METHODS USED TO ENCAPSULATE FOAM

☐ Treated Wood ☐ Treated Plywood ☐ Galvanized Steel ☐ Concrete ☐ Fiberglass
☐ Hard Plastics ☐ Plastic Sheets ☐ Liquid Coatings ☐ Other _____

Thickness of Encapsulation Material (inch, mils) _____

Product name or description _____

Cubic Feet of Foam _____ Number of Billets _____ ☐ Round ☐ Square

⑤ I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the proposed project and activity described in this certification form complies with the Floatation Encapsulation Program Rules and will be completed and installed in a manner consistent with the program.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

Authorized Agent Signature _____

Date _____

STATE MARINE BOARD
435 COMMERCIAL ST. NE
SALEM, OR 97310

STAMP
